

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3226

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBERG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

USMISSION USUN NY

USCINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA FOR POLAD

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER FOR POLAD

UNCGAS LUANDA 0129

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLA'S TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TAKES OFFICE

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. ANGOLA'S TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TOOK OFFICE ON JANUARY 31
IN A HOLIDAY ATMOSPHERE OF CORDIALITY AND ENTHUSIASM. THE CEREMONIES,
SCHEDULED FOR FOUR P.M. AT THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S PALACE, ACTUALLY
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GOT UNDERWAY AT FOUR TWENTY. THE NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER,

BRIGADIER GENERAL ANTONIO DA SILVA CADROSO, SPOKE VERY BRIEFLY, FOLLOWED BY PORTUGUESE MINISTER FOR INTERTERRITORAL COORDINATION ALMEIDA SANTOS. JOHNNY EDUARDO, WHO WILL BE THE FIRST CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL, SPOKE FOR ALL THREE LIBERATION GROUPS. THE CEREMONY AND SPEECHES ENDED AT FIVE FIFTEEN, TO THE ASTONISHMENT OF ALL PRESENT. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OFFERED A BUFFET DINNER THE SAME EVENING FOR THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT SPECIAL DELEGATIONS FROM ABROAD AND LOCAL DIGNITARIES.

2. THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR TO PORTUGAL WAS ON HAND, AS WAS THE TUNISIAN SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ALSO PRESENT WERE UN ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL, TAN MING CAHO AND DELEGATIONS FROM GABON, TANZANIA, KENYA, ZAMBIA, ZAIRE, SENEGAL, GUINE BISSAU, ALGERIA AND YUGOSLAVIA.

3. IN HIS SPEECH JOHNNY EDUARDO PROMISED FAST ACTION TO PROMULGATE THE BASIC LAWS THAT WILL ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT TO FUNCTION. HE ALSO SAID THAT PRIORITY ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN AREAS AS LABOR AND THE REVITALIZATION OF THE ECONOMY, WITHOUT SLIGHTING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, BUT WITHOUT PERMITTING THAT SECTOR TO CONTINUE TO EXPLOIT THE PEOPLE. THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION ARE NOT THE PROPERTY OF A FEW. NON DISCRIMINATION IS ONE OF THE CHIEF GOALS OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT, AS IS A JUST AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WEALTH OF THE NATION. EDUARDO REFERRED TO PROBLEMS OF HEALTH, SPECIFICALLY TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF PHYSICIANS WHO HAVE LEFT ANGOLA SINCE APRIL 24, 1974, AND SAID THE NATION WILL HAVE TO START FROM ZERO TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES.

4. THE STREETS OF LUANDA WERE DESERTED DURING THE DAY UNTIL THREE IN THE AFTERNOON, WHEN GROUPS OF PEOPLE BEGAN WALKING TOWARD THE PALACE. BY THE TIME THE CERMONY STARTED, GOOD NATURED CROWD OF SEVERAL THOUSAND WAS IN FRONT OF THE PALACE. ORGANIZED BANDS OF SUPPORTERS OF THE THREE LIBERATION GROUPS MARCHED BACK AND FORTH, INTERMINGLING, SHOUTING AND WAVING BANNERS. FNLA CARRIED THE DAY BY DINT OF ORGANIZATION; THEY HAD A RYTHM BAND SNAKING THROUGH THE CROWD AND A VERY GOOD BRASS BAND IN FRONT OF THE PALACE THAT PLAYED MARCHING SONGS THROUGHOUT THE SPEECHES. AS THE FORMAL CEREMONY BROKE UP THE FNLA LEADERS CAME TO THE BALCONIES AND TOOK THE CHEERS OF THEIR FOLLOWERS. THE CROWD DISPERSED SINGING AND CHANTING THROUGH THE STREET. DESPITE THE EUPHORIA
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THERE WERE NO SERIOUS INCIDENTS.

5. IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE WE GIVE THE NAMES AND BRIEF BIO ON KEY MEMBERS OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT.
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